

PALESTINIAN MONITORING GROUP



MONTHLY SUMMARY OF ISRAELI VIOLATIONS

1 December 2010 – 31 December 2010

The following summary tables and overview of events survey hostile Israeli activities during the period 1 December 2010 to 31 December 2010. The report includes a summary table of events, classified by type, throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip, in addition to a comparative table surveying events over the past three months. The survey is compiled from the Daily Situation Reports of the Palestinian Monitoring Group (PMG) of the Negotiations Affairs Department (NAD) of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). The PMG monitors ground conditions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, including Israeli and Palestinian violations. The PMG Daily Situation Reports are a survey of daily events collated from information provided by civil ministries and security agencies of the Palestinian National Authority. The information reported through the PMG process represents data available at the time of distribution only.

SAMPLE OF ISRAELI VIOLATIONS DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2010

- **02 December:** An Israeli settler vehicle ran over and injured a three-year-old boy near Kiryat Arba' settlement in the old city of Hebron.
- **03 December:** The Israeli military raided An Nabi Salih village in Ramallah district and assaulted a Palestinian security officer, leaving him with wounds, including a skull fracture.
- **03 December:** Israeli naval boats opened fire on Palestinian fishing boats at sea off the beach of the Northern Gaza district, injuring two Palestinian fishermen.
- **04 December:** An Israeli unexploded ordnance (UXO) blew up in Za'tara town in Bethlehem district, injuring a civilian in the hand.
- **08 December:** Israeli combat aircraft fired a missile on a poultry farm southwest of Khan Yunis city, wounding a civilian.
- **08 December:** The Israeli military fired two artillery shells on Palestinian territory east of Gaza city, leaving three Palestinian workers with injuries.
- **20 December:** Israeli troops opened fire on participants in a peaceful demonstration against Wall construction in Biddu town in Jerusalem district. A civilian sustained critical wounds.
- **23 December:** Israeli troops opened fire on a civilian vehicle east of Hebron city, injuring two civilians.
- **23 December:** The Israeli military opened fire on Palestinian territory north of the Northern Gaza district, killing a shepherd and injuring two workers. Of those injured, a worker was in a critical health condition.
- **31 December:** A peaceful, mass demonstration, including international peace activists, took place in Bil'in village in Ramallah district against Wall construction. Confrontations took place between the Israeli military and protestors, during which a female civilian died of tear gas inhalation. The Israeli army military also injured three civilians.

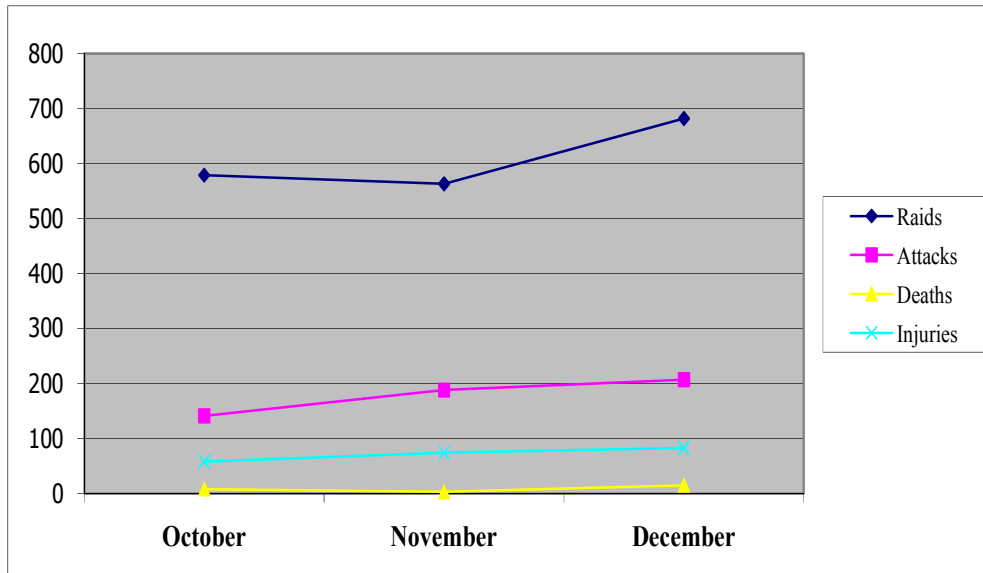
SUMMARY TABLE OF EVENTS IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY – DECEMBER 2010

EVENT	WEST BANK	GAZA STRIP	TOTAL	NOTES
Deaths	1	14	15	Includes a female civilian, who died of tear gas inhalation, and a child.
Injuries	40	43	83	Includes 10 children; a female civilian; three fishermen; and a Palestinian security officer.
Attacks	84	123	207	The Israeli military carried out 42 attacks during raids on Palestinian residential areas; 65 attacks during confrontations with Palestinians; and 60 attacks from Israeli army military posts on civilian houses and property. The Israeli navy opened fire on Palestinian fishing boats and territory 19 occasions. Israeli combat aircraft carried out 19 aerial attacks on Palestinian territory and Israeli troops positioned at checkpoints opened fire on civilians and property on one occasion. Israeli settlers also opened fire on civilians on one occasion.
Raids	660	22	682	21 in Jerusalem; 81 in Ramallah; 53 in Jenin; 19 in Tubas; 33 in Tulkarem; 76 in Qalqiliya; 103 in Nablus; 43 in Salfit; 25 in Jericho; 69 in Bethlehem; 137 in Hebron; three in Northern Gaza; three in Gaza; seven in Central Gaza; four in Khan Yunis; and five in Rafah.
Arrests	226	6	232	22 in Jerusalem; 32 in Ramallah; eight in Jenin; five in Tubas; 10 in Tulkarem; nine in Qalqiliya; 32 in Nablus; nine in Salfit; 15 in Jericho; 28 in Bethlehem; 56 in Hebron; and six in Northern Gaza. Arrested civilians included 19 children; four female civilians; five students; six fishermen; three members of the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC); and six Palestinian security officers.
Home Demolitions	9	2	11	The Israeli military demolished civilian homes in the districts of Jerusalem (8); Bethlehem (1); Gaza (1); and Rafah (1).
Attacks on Public & Private Property	122	7	129	Destruction of Property: Israeli troops and settlers destroyed residential rooms; agricultural facilities; olive trees; barracks; furniture; a sheep pen; vegetable seedlings; tombs; wheel tyres; wells; greenhouses; civilian vehicles; homes; and a dairy factory. Confiscation of Property: The Israeli military confiscated civilians' ID cards; a tractor; a hydraulic excavator; a personal computer; a pistol; a sum of money; a fishing boat; and civilian land.
Home Occupations	5	—	5	The Israeli military occupied and converted into military posts civilian homes in the districts of Nablus (2); Bethlehem (1); and Hebron (2).
Closure of Crossing Points	—	137	137	International crossing points were closed on 41 occasions (Rafah Crossing to Egypt and continuing closure of Yasser Arafat International Airport) and crossing points to territory under Israeli administration on 96 occasions.
Flying Checkpoints	691	—	691	The Israeli army set up flying checkpoints and searched Palestinian civilians and vehicles in and around Palestinian residential areas in the districts of Jerusalem (73); Ramallah (45); Jenin (13); Tubas (9); Tulkarem (15); Qalqiliya (103); Nablus (87); Salfit (21); Jericho (85); Bethlehem (49); and Hebron (191).
Medical Obstruction	2	—	2	Israeli troops denied access to a Palestinian ambulance to transport injured civilians in Ramallah district and raided a hospital in Bethlehem district.
Attacks on Religious Sites	2	—	2	The Israeli military raided a mosque in Hebron district and surrounded another mosque in Qalqiliya district. The Israeli military also delivered a notice for the demolition of a mosque in As Suwwana neighbourhood in Jerusalem city, allegedly because it had been built without the required construction licence.
School Disruption	3	—	3	The Israeli military demolished a school in Nablus district and raided a school and kindergarten in Jenin district.
Provocation of Palestinian Forces	24	—	24	The Israeli military provoked or harassed Palestinian security forces in the districts of Jerusalem (1); Ramallah (3); Tubas (1); Tulkarem (1); Salfit (1); Nablus (2); Jericho (3); Bethlehem (3); and Hebron (9).
Settlement Activity	6	—	6	The Israeli authorities approved construction of 649 housing units in settlements located east of Jerusalem city. The Israeli military confiscated civilian land for construction of a railroad; levelled land near a settlement; and seized land for installation of a military watchtower.
Settler Violence	66	—	66	Israeli settlers threw stones at civilians and property; opened fire on civilians; set fire to crops and olive trees; seized control of civilian land; beat civilians, including children; gained entry into Palestinian residential areas; raided villages; and slaughtered sheep. Israeli settler vehicles also ran over children.
TOTAL	1941	354	2295	

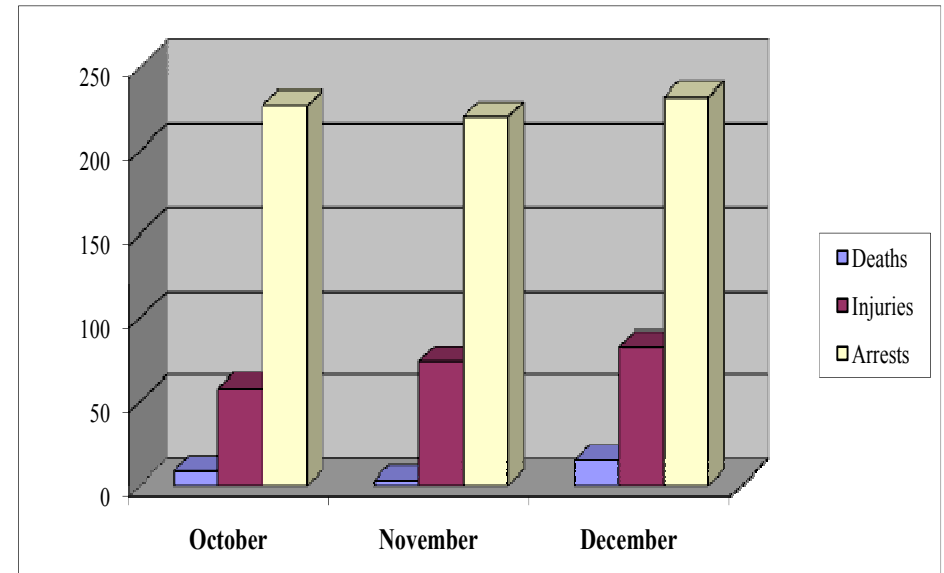
COMPARATIVE TABLE OF EVENTS OVER THE PAST THREE MONTHS

EVENT	OCT. 2010	NOV. 2010	DEC. 2010	COMMENTS
Assassinations	1	2	—	The Israeli military did not extra-judicially kill 'wanted' Palestinian individuals this month.
Deaths	8	1	15	Death toll sharply rose by 1400% compared to November and by 87.5% compared to October.
Injuries	58	74	83	Rise of 12.2% compared to November and of 43.1% compared to October. Compared to eight children wounded in November and seven in October, 10 children were injured in December.
Attacks	141	188	207	Increase in the number of attacks by 10.1% compared to November and of 46.8% compared to October.
Raids	579	563	682	Rise of 21.1% compared to November, but a rise of 17.8% compared to October.
Arrests	227	220	232	Increase of 5.5% compared to November and of 2.2% compared to October. 19 children were arrested in December compared to 27 children arrested in November and 35 in October.
Home Demolitions	1	3	11	Sharp rise of 266.7% compared to November and of 1000% compared to October.
Attacks on Property	111	108	129	Rise of 19.4% compared to November and of 16.2% compared to October.
Home Occupations	13	5	5	The same percentage as in November, but a drop of 84.6% compared to October.
Curfews	1	4	—	Incidents of curfews imposed on Palestinian residential areas were not reported this month.
Flying Checkpoints	751	729	691	Drop of 5.2% compared to November and of 8% compared to October.
Complete Closure of Crossing Points	130	129	137	Crossing points to Israeli administered territory were closed on 96 occasions in December, compared to 93 in November and 99 in October. Rafah Crossing was closed for 10 days. Yasser Arafat International Airport has remained closed since the outbreak of the second <i>Intifada</i> (Uprising) in 2000.
Medical Obstruction	1	—	2	Rise of 200% compared to November and of 100% compared to October.
Attacks on Religious Sites	4	3	2	Drop of 33.3% compared to November and of 50% compared to October.
School Disruption	3	4	3	Decrease of 25% compared to November, but the same percentage as in October.
Provocation of Palestinian Forces	31	20	24	Rise of 20% compared to November, but a drop of 22.6% compared to October. In addition, the Israeli military arrested six Palestinian security officers.
Settlement Activity	11	5	6	Increase of 20% compared to November, but a decrease of 45.5% compared to October.
Settler Violence	127	51	66	Rise of 29.4% compared to November, but a drop of 48% compared to October.
TOTAL	2198	2109	2295	During the month of December, total incidents rose by 8.8% compared to November and by 4.4% compared to October due to the increasing number of deaths, injuries, arrests, raids into Palestinian residential areas, attacks, home demolitions; and attacks on property.

COMPARISON OF ISRAELI RAIDS, ATTACKS AND PALESTINIAN HUMAN CASUALTIES OVER THE PAST 3 MONTHS



COMPARISON OF INCIDENTS OF DEATHS, INJURIES, AND ARRESTS OVER THE PAST 3 MONTHS



ANALYSIS OF EVENTS

1. Deaths

In December, the Israeli military killed **15** Palestinians, including one in the West Bank and 14 in the Gaza Strip. Among those killed was a female civilian who died of tear gas inhalation during a peaceful demonstration against Wall construction. A Palestinian fishing boat turned over, while Israeli naval boats were pursuing it, resulting in the death of a child.

2. Injuries

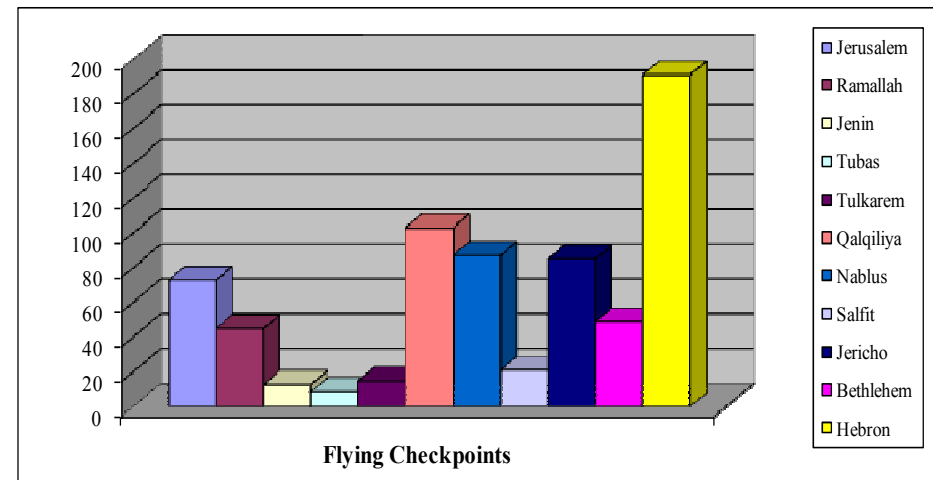
A total of **83** injuries were reported in December (40 Palestinians in the West Bank and 43 in the Gaza Strip). They included 10 children, including three run over by Israeli settler vehicles; a female civilian; three fishermen; six workers; and a Palestinian security officer. An Israeli UXO exploded, resulting in the injury of a civilian.

3. Arrests

During the month of December, the Israeli army arrested **232** Palestinians (226 in the West Bank and six in the Gaza Strip). The majority of arrests took place in the districts of Hebron (56), Ramallah (32), Nablus (32), Bethlehem (28), and Jerusalem (22). Among those arrested by the Israeli military were: 19 children, four female civilians; five university students; six fishermen; three PLC members; a former Palestinian minister; and six Palestinian security officers.

4. Closure

Especially on Fridays, the Israeli military continues to intensify restrictions at checkpoints located at the entrances of Jerusalem, and to restrict entrance to the Al Aqsa Mosque compound in the old city of Jerusalem, preventing worshippers from accessing the Mosque. At the *Qalandiya checkpoint north of Jerusalem*, the Israeli military continues to prevent PNA registered civilian vehicles from crossing the checkpoint towards Ar Ram and Qalandiya as well as Dahiyat al Bareed. The checkpoint is overcrowded daily, particularly during rush hours, due to intensified restrictions and search measures applied by Israeli troops. During the month of December, the Israeli military also intensified its restrictions at the *Tayasir checkpoint* and *Al Hamra junction checkpoint* leading to the Jordan Valley area, only allowing access to civilians whose IDs indicate District of Jericho residence or others holding special access permits. In addition, restrictions were intensified and civilian access was obstructed at the *Za'tara junction checkpoint* (separating the northern and central West Bank districts) as well as at the *As Sawahira ash Sharqiya (the 'Container') checkpoint* (separating the central and southern West Bank districts).



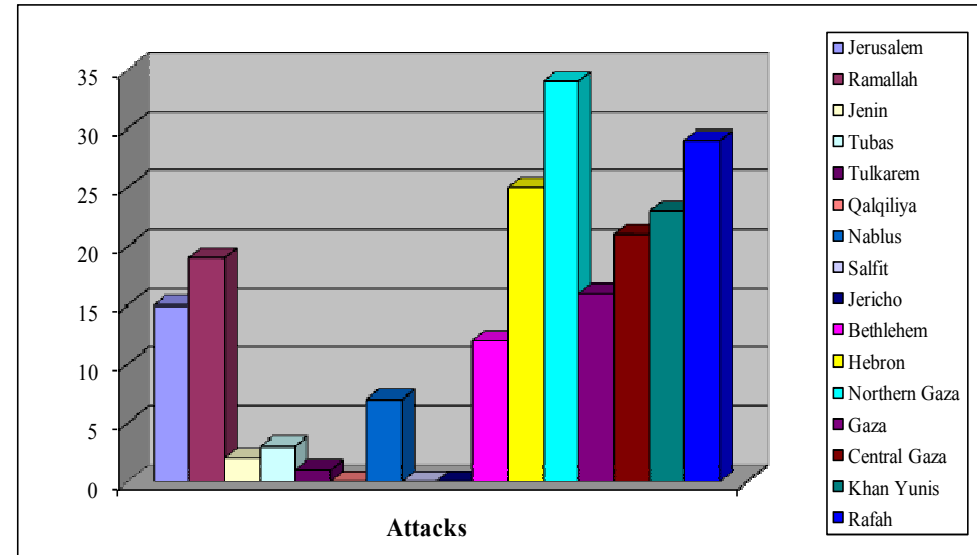
Further impeding civilian movement and access, the Israeli military set up **691 flying checkpoints** in and around Palestinian residential areas throughout the West Bank in December, compared to 729 flying checkpoints in November and 751 in October. In general, Israeli troops positioned at these flying checkpoints disrupted civilian access and movement of goods, including agricultural produce.

5. Attacks

A total of **207 attacks** were reported to have taken place during the month of December: **84** in the West Bank and **123** in the Gaza Strip.

The Israeli military carried out **42 attacks during raids** into Palestinian residential areas, **65 attacks during confrontations** between the Israeli military and Palestinians, and **60 attacks from Israeli military posts** on civilian homes and property. In addition, Israeli navy boats carried out **19 attacks** on Palestinian fishermen and territory. Israeli combat aircraft carried out **19 aerial attacks** and **Israeli troops positioned at checkpoints** opened fire on civilians and property on one occasion. **Israeli settlers** also opened fire on civilians on one occasion.

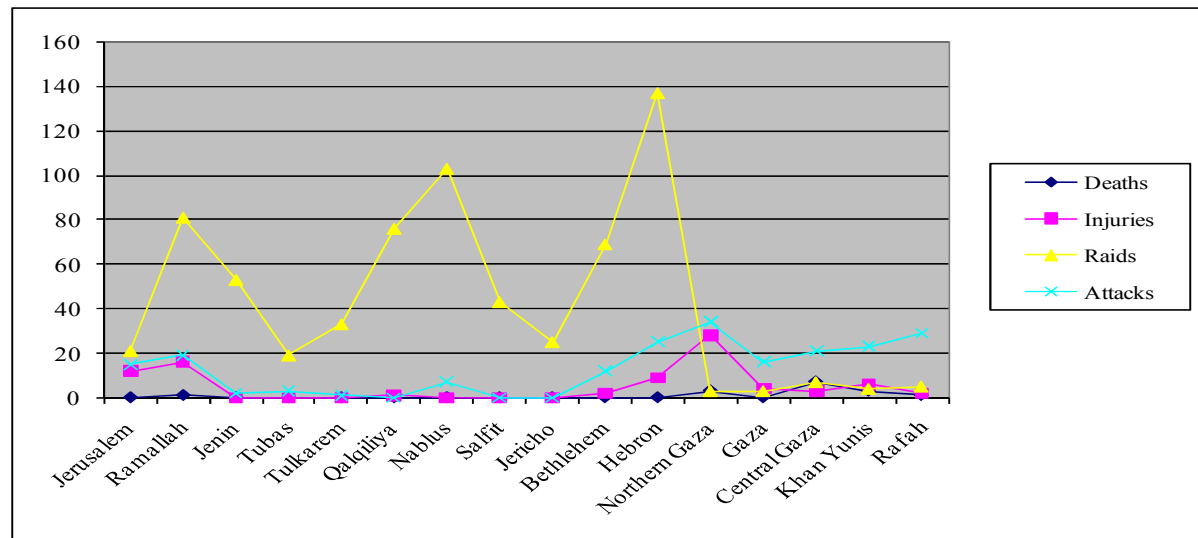
At 02:00 on 18 January 2009, the Israeli military declared a unilateral ceasefire following the large-scale offensive it had launched against the Gaza Strip. However, the Israeli military violated the ceasefire on **123 occasions** during the month of December (compared to 95 violations in November and 52 in October). Also disregarding Israel's unilaterally declared ceasefire, armed Palestinian groups fired **54 mortar rounds** towards the Green Line (compared to 29 mortar rounds fired in November and 16 in October). Armed Palestinian individuals also opened fire on Israeli military posts on nine occasions.



6. Raids

The Israeli military carried out a total of **682 raids** in Palestinian residential areas during the month of December, including **660 in the West Bank** and **22 in the Gaza Strip**. The majority of Israeli military raids took place in the districts of Hebron, Nablus, Ramallah, and Bethlehem. The Israeli army **opened fire** during 15.7%, or **107 of the 682 raids**. Compared to four times in November and one time in October, the Israeli military did not **impose curfew over residential areas** in the West Bank during raids.

The chart to the right shows the correlation between the number of raids and the resulting human casualties in December.



The table below shows Israeli violations and continued attempts to impede large-scale Palestinian security campaigns carried out in the districts of Jenin, Tubas, and Hebron¹, as well as in Nablus city:

Month \ Violations	Raids	Attacks	Deaths	Injuries	Arrests	House Occupations	Provocation of Palestinian Forces²	Total
December	224	21	—	—	67 (incl. three children, one female civilian, and three PLC members)	4	4	320
November	197	18	—	1 (a girl)	55 (incl. three children)	4	8	283
October	225	21	4	3 (incl. a child and a Palestinian security officer)	96 (incl. seven children, a female civilian, a PLC member, and two Palestinian security officers)	6	5	360

7. Provocation of Palestinian Security Forces

The Israeli army carried out **24** attacks and provocations of Palestinian security forces and posts during December.³

TYPES OF ISRAELI ARMY PROVOCATION AGAINST PALESTINIAN FORCES IN DECEMBER

Type of Provocation	#	Notes
Reporting to the Israeli Intelligence agency	2	Requiring that they report to the Israeli Intelligence agency, the Israeli military served summonses on a Palestinian Police officer in Ramallah district and on a Palestinian National Security officer in Jericho district.
Taking position/setting up checkpoints near Palestinian security posts	10	The Israeli military surrounded and took photographs of a Palestinian National Security post in Tulkarem city. Israeli troops took positions in front of a Police station in Bidya town in Salfit district; near National Security posts in Beit Wazan village in Nablus district as well as in Jericho and Nablus cities; in front of a Palestinian military training camp in Jericho city; and near offices of the Preventive Security agency in Yatta town in Hebron district. While searching his house in Dura town in Hebron district, Israeli troops telephoned a National Security officer while he was on duty. Also in Hebron district, the Israeli military set up flying checkpoints near a Police station in As Samoa' town and near offices of the General Intelligence agency in Dura town.

¹ This table does not cover Israeli violations in the H2 area of the old city of Hebron, which is under full Israeli security control.

² In Hebron city, the Israeli military took position near the Magistrate Court and impeded movement of Palestinian Police officers, who were assigned to guard and preserve security and public order around the Court. The Israeli army set up a flying checkpoint near a Palestinian Preventive Security office in Yatta town. Despite prior coordination (through the DCO), Israeli troops positioned at the Tayasir checkpoint in the Northern Jordan Valley area detained and searched a Palestinian Police vehicle, while it was travelling to summon Palestinian criminal convicts to Tubas city. In Nablus city, the Israeli military took position in front of a Palestinian National Security post.

³ These statistics do not include the arrest of six Palestinian security officers.

Detaining and searching Palestinian security officers and patrols	12	Israeli troops denied access to Palestinian Civil Defence fire engines to extinguish a fire near Shu'fat refugee camp in Jerusalem district. In Ramallah district, Israeli troops positioned at the 'Court' checkpoint detained two Police vehicles. The Israeli military detained Police vehicles in Tubas (1), in Hebron (2), and near the junction to Kfar Etzion settlement in Bethlehem (1). In Hebron city, Israeli troops took position near the Magistrate Court and impeded movement of Police officers. The Israeli military detained a National Security vehicle at the entrance to Za'tara town in Bethlehem as well as a Preventive Security and National Security vehicles in Hebron. Israeli troops positioned at a checkpoint in Bethlehem detained Presidential Guard officers.
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8. Attacks on Public and Private Property

A total of **129 incidents of destruction and confiscation** of Palestinian public and private property were reported in December, including **122** in the West Bank and **seven** in the Gaza Strip.

In At Tur neighbourhood in Jerusalem city, the Israeli military and settlers destroyed scores of olive trees; three residential rooms; an agricultural facility; a fence; three horse barns; and a garage. Also in Jerusalem district, the Israeli military broke the showcase of a commercial premise in Beit 'Anan village; damaged furniture, doors and window glass of the Qatanna Village Council offices; and forced civilians to close their commercial premises in the old city of Jerusalem and in Abu Dis town. In Ramallah district, Israeli troops and settlers damaged olive trees on civilian land near Halamish settlement in An Nabi Salih village. In Tubas district, the Israeli military destroyed a cattle barn in the Northern Jordan Valley area. In Qalqiliya district, the Israeli military and settlers cut down olive trees on civilian land in the area between 'Azzun town and Kafr Laqif village; damaged civilians' ID cards in Beit Amin village; and dismantled a barbed wire fence in Al Muntar area in 'Azzun town. In Nablus district; the Israeli military caused damage to a basic school; demolished 11 barracks in Khirbet Tana village; damaged padlocks of a car showroom as well as two personal computers in Nablus city; and forced civilians to close their commercial premises in Huwwara town. Israeli settlers cut down olive trees near the evacuated settlement of Homesh, near Madama village, and in the area between Madama and 'Asira al Qibliya villages. Israeli settlers slaughtered two sheep in the vicinity of Qusra village; killed 17 sheep east of 'Aqraba town; and damaged vegetable seedlings in Till village. In Salfit district, Israeli settlers caused damage to tombs and wheel tyres of vehicles in Kifl Haris town and destroyed a well and crops west of Salfit city. In Jericho district, Israeli troops and settlers damaged long-lived trees near the entrance to Az Zubeidat village and destroyed vendors' stalls on both sides of Road # 90. In Bethlehem district, the Israeli military destroyed a well in Ar Rashayida village. In Hebron district, Israeli troops and settlers destroyed two civilian vehicles and commercial stores in Hebron city; wheel tyres of vehicles and greenhouses near Sussia village; and forced civilians to close their shops in Al 'Arrub refugee camp. Also in Hebron district, the Israeli military and settlers damaged part of a cemetery and two civilian vehicles in Beit Ummar town; doors and window glass of the Magistrate Court in Dura town; and wells for collection of rainwater near Um ad Daraj village. Israeli combat aircraft fired missiles and troops opened fire on Palestinian territory in the Gaza district, causing damage to civilian houses east of Gaza city and in Al Mughraqa town. In Khan Yunis district, Israeli combat aircraft shelled and destroyed a dairy factory as well as a poultry farm in Qizan Abu Rashwan area southwest of Khan Yunis city. In Rafah district, the Israeli navy pursued and destroyed a Palestinian fishing boat at sea.

The Israeli military distributed notices for the demolition of barracks in Yarza and Al Farisiya villages in Tubas district; cessation of building four houses in Jit village in Qalqiliya district; evacuation of the residents of Khirbet Tana village in Nablus district; and dismantlement of five makeshift houses in Sussia village in Hebron district. In Salfit district, the Israeli military also delivered a notice for the demolition of a car wash premises in Haris village, a well, an agricultural facility, and another agricultural facility under construction.

The Israeli military confiscated a civilian's ID card at the entrance to Beit Duqqu village in Jerusalem district; a tractor, a hydraulic excavator, and a welding machine east of Tammun town in Tubas district; and a personal computer from a civilian house in Nur Shams refugee camp in Tulkarem city. In Nablus city, Israeli troops seized a pistol from a Palestinian National Security officer and a number of car licences from a car showroom. At a flying checkpoint set up at the southern entrance to Jericho city, Israeli troops confiscated two civilians' ID cards and a sum of money. The Israeli navy also confiscated a Palestinian fishing boat at sea off the Northern Gaza district's beach.

9. Settlement Activity

During the month of December, **six incidents of settlement activity** were reported to have taken place in the West Bank.

Settlement Activity District	Settlements/Settlement Outposts	For Military Purposes	Total
Jerusalem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of a settlement quarter, including 625 housing units, in Pisgat Ze'ev settlement east of Jerusalem city approved. • Granting of a licence for the construction of 24 housing units in As Suwwana neighbourhood in East Jerusalem approved. • Land confiscated in Beit Ikxa village for the construction of a railroad. 		3
Nablus	Land levelled in Ras Hazim area near Alon Moreh settlement northeast of Deir al Hatab village.	Land confiscated near Eli settlement in As Sawiya village for the installation of a military watchtower.	2
Salfit		Agricultural land levelled in Abu Zureiq area west of Salfit city.	1
Total	4	2	6

10. Settler Violence

Israeli settlers carried out **66 acts of violence** in West Bank districts during December.

In **Jerusalem**, Israeli settlers opened indiscriminate fire on civilians in Silwan neighbourhood in Jerusalem city and threw stones at civilian vehicles near the junction to Mikhmas village. In **Ramallah**, Israeli settlers set fire to olive trees on civilian land near Halamish settlement in An Nabi Salih village and threw stones at civilian vehicles travelling along the Ramallah-Nablus main road near Turmus'ayya town. In **Jenin**, Israeli settlers severely beat two children from Kafr Ra'i town; gained access to the evacuated settlement of Homesh; seized control of 40 *dunums* of civilian land in Tura al Gharbiya village; and prevented Palestinian farmers from accessing their land in Al 'Araqa village. In **Tubas**, Israeli settlers stopped and searched civilian vehicles in the area between Al Malih and Al Farisiya villages. Settlers also ploughed and cultivated approximately 30 *dunums* of civilian land in Al Farisiya village. In **Jericho**, Israeli settlers gained access to Suteih area west of Jericho city.

In **Qalqiliya**, an Israeli settler vehicle ran over a child in the centre of Al Funduq village along the Qalqiliya-Nablus main road. Israeli settlers attempted to seize control of two uninhabited houses near the entrance to Kedumim settlement; transported two caravans and tents to the Mohammed Mountain area near Kedumim settlement; raided Hajja village and took photographs of the village's streets and civilian houses; and raided 'Azzun 'Atma village and inscribed anti-Arab slogans on civilians' barracks. In addition to gathering along the Wadi Qana road near Emmanuel settlement, Israeli settlers threw stones at civilian vehicles travelling along the main road near Kedumim settlement on many occasions. Israeli settlers set fire to olive trees in the area between 'Azzun town and Kafr Laqif village; expelled Palestinian farmers from their land in Far'ata village; and discharged wastewater from She'arei Tikva settlement on the 'Azzun 'Atma-Beit Amin Secondary School, posing a public health hazard.

In **Nablus**, Israeli settlers raided Al Badhan village; gained access to civilian land and uprooted vegetable seedlings in Till village; gathered near the junction to Deir Sharaf village along the Nablus-Tulkarem main road; and threw stones at civilian houses in 'Asira al Qibliya village as well as at civilian vehicles travelling near Al Lubban ash Sharqiya village and along the main road near the junction to Yitzhar settlement. Israeli settlers gathered on the junction to the villages of 'Azmut, Salem, and Deir al Hatab; erected a tent in the Ras at Tabur area in Deir al Hatab village; and provoked and verbally abused civilians at Huwwara checkpoint. Israeli settlers damaged olive trees near the evacuated Homesh settlement, near Madama village, and in the area between Madama and 'Asira al Qibliya villages. Israeli settlers transported 20 caravans for the expansion of Shavuot Rachel settlement outpost, constructed on civilian land in Jalud and Qaryut villages. In attempt to seize control of them, Israeli settlers ploughed approximately 20 *dunums* of land east of Qaryut village, 60 *dunums* in the plain of Jalud village, 30 *dunums* in Jalud village, and an unspecified area of land in 'Asira al Qibliya. In addition to assaulting a shepherd and killing 17 sheep, Israeli settlers set fire to hay on civilian land in Jalud village. In Qusra village, Israeli settlers also assailed a shepherd and slaughtered two sheep.

In **Salfit**, Israeli settlers gained access to the Wadi ash Sha'er area southeast of Salfit city as well as to 'Ein al Fawwara area between Kafr ad Dik and Deir Ghassana towns. Israeli settlers destroyed several tombs in Kifl Haris town; damaged wheel tyres of four civilian vehicles; and attempted to gain entry into Deir Istiya town.

In **Hebron**, Israeli settler vehicles ran over two children, three and ten years old respectively, near Kiryat Arba' settlement in the old city of Hebron. In addition to levelling approximately 60 *dunums* of land in Sa'ir town, Israeli settlers excavated land belonging to Abu Heikal family and ploughed another piece of land in Tal Rumeida neighbourhood in the old city of Hebron. In an attempt to seize control of them, Israeli settlers erected barbed wire fences around 200 *dunums* of land near Eshkolot settlement in Ar Ramadin village as well as around land measuring approximately 1,500 *dunums* in Um al 'Arayis area southeast Yatta town. Israeli settlers also levelled approximately 60 *dunums* of land in Al Qannub area in Sa'ir town; prevented civilians from tending their land in Um al 'Arayis area; gained access to 'Ein Fares and Marah az Zur areas near Taffuh town; and set fire to greenhouses and damaged wheel tyres of two civilian vehicles near Sussia town. Settlers gained entry into Khallet al Maya area in Yatta town, performed Jewish religious rituals, and assaulted civilians. Settlers stoned civilian houses in Al Baq'a area east of Hebron city; attacked a number of civilian houses and beat a civilian in Wadi Juheish area south of Yatta town; and raided and made a tour around civilian houses in Raq'a area north of Yatta town. Under protection of the Israeli military, settlers gathered near Al Karmel village east of Yatta town. Settlers also severely beat a 13-year-old child in Al Casaba area in the old city of Hebron.

11. Medical Obstruction

During the month of December, **two incidents of medical obstruction** were reported in the West Bank districts. The Israeli military denied access to a Palestinian ambulance to evacuate injured civilians in An Nabi Salih village in Ramallah district. In Bethlehem district, Israeli troops raided the Bethlehem Arab Society for Rehabilitation in Beit Jala city and seized a list of the names of 100 patients and inmates.

12. Attack on Religious Sites

In December, **two attacks on religious sites** were reported to have taken place in the West Bank. The Israeli military surrounded and raided the Prophet Matta Mosque in Beit Ummar town in Hebron district and surrounded another mosque in Beit Amin village in Qalqiliya district. Additionally, the Israeli military delivered a notice for the demolition of a mosque in As Suwwana neighbourhood in Jerusalem city, allegedly because it had been built without the required construction licence.

13. School Disruption

Over the month of December, **three incidents of school disruption** took place in the West Bank districts. The Israeli military raided a school in Khirbet Tana village in Nablus district as well as a school and kindergarten in Zububa village in Jenin district.

14. Closure of Crossing Points

The Israeli military completely closed crossing points into the Gaza Strip, including access points within the Green Line, on **137** occasions during December. The Israeli military closed crossing points within the Green Line on **96** occasions. It opened ***Beit Hanun (Erez) Crossing*** for 27 days for previously-coordinated humanitarian cases and foreign nationals; ***Al Muntar (Karnei) Commercial Crossing*** for 10 days for transportation of wheat, animal feed, and construction cargo designated for internationally-funded projects; and ***Karm Abu Salem (Karem Shalom) Crossing*** for 22 days for transportation of food supplies, humanitarian aid, cooking gas, and diesel allocated for the Gaza Electricity Generation Plant. In addition to allowing in cement and iron designated for UNRWA projects, private vehicles were imported by the Gaza Strip and truckloads of strawberries and flowers were exported through the Crossing. The Israeli authorities unilaterally decided to completely close ***Ash Shuja'iyah (Nahal 'Oz) Crossing*** and ***Sufa Crossing***.

The Israeli military closed international crossing points on **41** occasions. ***Rafah Crossing*** was open for 20 days to allow access to civilians holding visas and residence permits abroad and to patients, who had received medical attention at Egyptian hospitals. Additionally, medical aid donated by Saudi Arabia was transported to Gaza through the Crossing. ***Yasser Arafat International Airport*** has remained closed since the outbreak of the second *Intifada*.